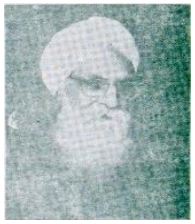

Sarmukh Singh Amol (1908–1992)

Sarmukh Singh Amol, a prominent Punjabi literary figure, was born in Lahore to Inder Kaur and father Jodh Singh, a renowned Sikh scholar and poet, into a Brahmin Sikh family. His father passed away shortly before his birth, and Amol was raised in orphanages in Gujranwala and Amritsar. Despite these early challenges, he developed a passion for literature, composing poetry for Punjabi newspapers from a young age. He passed the Gyani examination in 1924 and graduated from Khalsa School, Amritsar, in 1926.

Career and Contributions

In 1929, Amol joined **SSSS Khalsa School** as a teacher while also founding **Guru Ramdas Gyani College** to teach Gyani studies. The college flourished, becoming a hub for aspiring writers. In 1934, Amol focused entirely on the college, resigning from his teaching position at Khalsa School. That same year, he founded the literary magazine *Likhari*. Amol earned an M.A. in Punjabi in 1952, which led to a teaching position at **Lyallpur Khalsa College**, Jalandhar. He contributed to both fiction and prose, playing a key role in editing and preserving the works of medieval Punjabi poets.

Awards and Recognition

Amol's contributions to Punjabi literature were widely recognized. He received several prestigious awards, including the **Language Department of Punjab, Patiala** for *Sach Da Suraj* (1969) and *Budepe Da Sahara* (1979), **UNESCO** for *Aao Sikhiye Jiwan* (1970–71), **Punjabi University, Patiala** for *Bharati Samajik Sansthavan* (1972), and the **Government of India** for *Budepe Da Sahara* (1979). Other honors included the **'Shiromani Punjabi Sahitkar'** award (1982) and the **'Kartar Singh Dhaliwal'** award (1984) from the Punjabi Sahit Akademi.

Personal Life

Amol's children included **Madan Gopal Singh** (eldest son), a Master's degree holder living in England; **Dr. Atamjit Singh** (second son), a renowned playwright and Sahitya Akademi Award winner; and **Dr. Gurcharanjit Singh** (third son), a veterinary doctor. His daughters were **Parmjit Kaur** (eldest), who passed away in 1984; **Jasbir Kaur** (second), a Master's degree holder married to the son of Giani Hakam Singh, Gurugram; and **Birjinder Kaur** (youngest), with a Master's and B.A. in Library Science, who served as a librarian at Gurmat College, Patiala.